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Concl. supplementary communications service being requested; and
selecting which of said one or more servers will execute said
communications services.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, Claims 1-12 are pending. Claim 7 has been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejection. Claims 1, 5, and 9 have been amended to more particularly point out Applicant's invention.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 7 has been amended to be dependent on claim 6. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Taylor et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,400,587 ("Taylor"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every element of the claimed invention must be present in a single prior reference. Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Taylor. In particular, one aspect of the present invention is intercepting supplementary service requests and determining if the original destination server or servers should execute the supplementary service request. If not, the request is redirected for execution to another server. Thus, claims 1 and 5 have been amended to recite "wherein at least one of said one or more servers is adapted to intercept a supplementary communications service request to determine whether execution of said supplementary communications service request is carried out by a server other than an original requested server;" and claim 9 has been amended to recite "intercepting said supplementary communications service requests before execution."

In contrast, Taylor merely relates to rerouting a call from one trunk to another trunk or ACD which then treat the call normally. Taylor does not, however, relate to supplementary communications services or intercepting such requests

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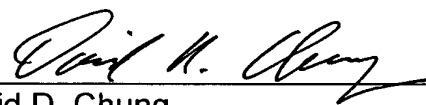
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before execution. Indeed, Taylor contains no hint that such interception and carrying out of supplementary services by an other-than-original server is even desirable. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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MARKED UP CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A communications network resource usage control system, comprising:

one or more servers in the communications network adapted to execute supplementary communications service requests;

a monitoring unit connected to each of said one or more servers to receive and decode supplementary service information for the supplementary communications service being requested; and

a control program responsive to said monitor to select which of said one or more servers will execute said communications services;

wherein at least one of said one or more servers is adapted to intercept a supplementary communications service request to determine whether execution of said supplementary communications service request is carried out by a server other than an original requested server.

5. (Amended) A communications network resource usage optimization system in an interconnected network system, comprising:

one or more servers in the interconnected network system adapted to execute supplementary communications service requests;

a monitoring unit connected to each of said one or more servers to receive and decode supplementary service information for the supplementary communications services being requested; and

a control program responsive to said monitor decoding supplementary service information adapted to select which of said one or more servers will execute said communications services, said control program further enabling said optimization system only under predetermined conditions;

wherein at least one of said one or more servers is adapted to intercept a supplementary communications service request to determine whether execution of said supplementary communications service request is carried out by a server other

than an original requested server.

7. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [7] 6, wherein said disabling means is responsive to a recall mechanism for failed service requests.

9. (Amended) A method for controlling communications network resource usage in a communications network, comprising:

[executing] enabling supplementary communications service requests;
intercepting said supplementary communications service requests before execution;

receiving and decoding supplementary service information for said supplementary communications service being requested; and

selecting which of said one or more servers will execute said communications services.